

Government Unit 2: Freedom vs Security in American History

Standard 4.2.c Analyze and explain the importance of the principles of democracy and the inherent competition among values. Values to include but not be limited to freedom and security, individual rights and common good, and rights and responsibilities.

This assignment is designed to take a historical look at the competition between freedom and security in the United States. Your task is to choose a topic from the list below and research the Constitutional amendment or question involved.

- Alien Act (1917)
- Sedition Act (1918)
- McCarthy Congressional hearings
- WWII Internment camps
- 1968 Democratic Convention

You will then fill out the thesis organizer in as much detail as possible, writing a thesis statement that answers the question, "In your scenario, was the United States government justified in limiting personal rights for national security?" Once you come up with your three subtopics and thesis, you will need to choose your strongest subtopic and write ONE body paragraph using the guidelines below.

Parts of a Body paragraph

- **Topic Sentence:** States the main argument you'll make in the paragraph (one of your subtopics)
- **Point:** Makes a point that helps your argument
- **Evidence:** Uses specific evidence that helps make your point (names, events, dates, data, laws, etc.)
- **Analysis:** Shows how your point helps your argument
- **Conclusion:** Shows how your body paragraph helps your thesis statement.

Your thesis and paragraph are your assessment to demonstrate understanding of how the US attempted to balance personal freedoms with national security in a specific historical context. They must be in final draft form, proofread and polished.